<u>REMARKS</u>

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 3, 2006. Claims 8 to 10, 18 to 20, 22 and 25 to 37 remain pending in the application, of which Claims 8, 18, 22, 24, 28, 34 and 37 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 22 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Without conceding the correctness of the rejections, the preambles of the claims have been amended merely to make it clearer that the recording medium is computer readable and the program stored thereon is computer executable. Thus, Claims 22 and 37 are believed to be statutory and therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 101 rejections are respectfully requested.

Claims 8, 9, 18, 19, 22, 25, 27 to 31 and 33 to 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,219,706 (Fan) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,530,025 (Nakagawa), Claims 10 and 20 were rejected under § 103(a) over Fan in view of Nakagawa and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,646,872 (Yonenaga), and Claims 26 and 32 were rejected under § 103(a) over Fan in view of Nakagawa and further in view of IANA. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention relates to executing a data process between a data processing apparatus (e.g., a printer) and a computer by using a specified port number from among plural port numbers respectively allocated in correspondence to plural kinds of data processes that are executable by the data processing apparatus. According to the invention, the data processing apparatus receives a request from a computer, where the request includes a kind of data process to be executed and a request to obtain a port number. A

port number corresponding to the data process included in the request is specified from among plural port numbers respectively allocated in correspondence to the plural kinds of data processes. The specified port number is then notified to the computer if it is determined that communication with the computer is permitted, and the data process is executed in accordance with data that is transmitted to the specified port number.

With specific reference to the claims, Claim 8 is directed to a data processing apparatus which communicates with a computer via a network, the data processing apparatus comprising a reception unit that receives a request transmitted from the computer via the network, wherein the request includes a kind of data process to be executed and a request to obtain a port number for transmitting data to be used in the data process, an address obtaining unit that obtains an address of a transferring source of the request received by the reception unit, a discriminating unit that determines whether or not communication with the computer is to be permitted, based on the address obtained by the address obtaining unit, a specifying unit that specifies a port number that corresponds to the kind of data process included in the request received by the reception unit, from among plural port numbers respectively allocated in correspondence to plural kinds of data processes, and a port number notifying unit that notifies the address obtained by the address obtaining unit of the port number specified by the specifying unit in a case where the discriminating unit determines that communication with the computer is to be permitted, wherein the data process is executed in accordance with data in which the port number to which the data is transmitted is the port number notified by the port number notifying unit.

Claims 18 and 22 are method and computer medium claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 8.

Claim 28 includes features substantially corresponding to Claim 8, but is more specifically directed to a data processing apparatus which communicates with a computer through a network, the data processing apparatus comprising a reception unit that receives a request transmitted from the computer via the network, wherein the request includes a kind of data process to be executed and a request to obtain a port number for transmitting data to be used in the data process, a specifying unit a port number that corresponds to the kind of data process included in the request received by the reception unit, from among plural port numbers respectively allocated in correspondence to plural kinds of data processes, and a port number notifying unit that notifies the computer of the port number specified by the specifying unit, wherein the data process is executed according to an indication that the port number to which the data is transferred is the port number notified by the port number notifying unit.

Claims 34 and 37 are method and computer medium claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 28.

The applied art, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the foregoing features of the present invention, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of a data processing apparatus, upon receiving a request from a computer that includes a kind of data process to be executed and a request to obtain a port number for transmitting data to be used in the data process, specifying a port number that corresponds to the kind of data process

included in the request, from among plural port numbers respectively allocated in correspondence to plural kinds of data processes, and notifying the computer of the specified port number, wherein the data process is executed in accordance with an indication that the port number to which data is transmitted is the notified port number.

Fan merely discloses a firewall which permits or inhibits communication with an external node based on the IP address and the port number transmitted from the external node. However, the relevant firewall in Fan does not specify the port number corresponding to a kind of data process, and it does not specify the port number from among plural port numbers respectively allocated in correspondence to plural kinds of data processes executable by the firewall. Moreover, since Fan is a firewall, it also does not notify a computer of the specified port number, since such a characteristic would most likely defeat the entire purpose of Fan's firewall functionality.

Nakagawa merely describes an authentication checking server which performs authentication by receiving a user ID and password from a client and thereafter notifying the client of a port number to be used for a connection. However, in Nakagawa, the authentication checking server does not specify a port number corresponding to a kind of data process included in a request, wherein the port number is specified from among plural port numbers respectively allocated in correspondence to plural kinds of data processes that are executable by the authentication checking server. Rather, Nakagawa assigns a port number at "random", as specified at step 6 of Figure 11. Nakagawa does not, therefore, assign a port number in correspondence to a kind of data process to be

executed, but rather assigns a port number at "random". Accordingly, any permissible combination of Fan and Nakagawa would not have resulted in the present invention.

Yonenaga merely discloses a laptop computer with a built-in printer. Yonenaga is not seen to teach anything with regard to specifying a port number in accordance with a kind of process to be executed included in a request, much less that the port number is specified from among plural port number allocated in correspondence with plural kinds of data processes, respectively. Thus, any permissible combination of Fan, Nakagawa, and/or Yonenaga would not have resulted in the present invention.

The "IANA Well-Known Port Numbers" merely provides a list of well-known ports corresponding to well-known services. IANA does not, however, teach the foregoing features of the invention. Thus, any permissible combination of Fan, Nakagawa, Yonenaga, and/or IANA would not have resulted in the present invention.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that the claims herein define subject matter that would not have been obvious from any permissible combination of the applied art, and allowance of the claims is therefore respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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